

**VIRGINIA:**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN RE: TAMELA S. WILLIAMSON, R.N., C.N.S.**  
**License No.: 0001-094356**  
**Registration No.: 0015-000199**

**ORDER**

In accordance with §§ 2.2-4019, 2.2-4021, and 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), an informal conference was conducted on behalf of the Board of Nursing ("Board") on November 13, 2013, in Henrico County, Virginia. Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.S.N., was present and was not represented by legal counsel. Judith Piersall, R.N., B.S.N., serving as Agency Subordinate for the Board, submitted a Recommended Decision for consideration.

On January 29, 2014, a quorum of the Board met to receive and act upon the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate. Ms. Williamson was not present nor was she represented by legal counsel.

Based upon its review of the Recommended Decision of the Agency Subordinate, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and issues the following Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., was issued License No. 0001-094356 to practice professional nursing by the Virginia Board of Nursing on August 22, 1984. She was issued Registration No. 0015-000199 to practice as a clinical nurse specialist on January 23, 1991. Said license and registration are set to expire on December 31, 2015. Ms. Williamson's primary state of residence is Virginia.

2. By letter dated October 15, 2013, the Board of Nursing sent a Notice of Informal Conference ("Notice") to Ms. Williamson notifying her that an informal conference would be held on November 13, 2013. The Notice was sent by certified and first class mail to 12112 Glastonbury Place, Henrico, Virginia 23233, the address of record on file with the Board of Nursing.

3. On January 15, 2013, Ms. Williamson and the Board entered into a Consent Order, which took no action against Ms. Williamson upon the condition that she remain in compliance with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program ("HPMP"), for the period specified by the HPMP. The Consent Order was based on the following findings: Ms. Williamson had been diagnosed as alcohol dependent and depressed. After successfully completing substance abuse treatment, Ms. Williamson relapsed. After Ms. Williamson relapsed, she entered HPMP. Next, Ms. Williamson was convicted for driving under the influence. Finally, HPMP issued Ms. Williamson a Report of Non-Compliance for missing calls to the test line and two group therapy sessions.

4. On February 11, 2013, Ms. Williamson was dismissed from the HPMP for non-compliance with her Recovery Monitoring Contract. Ms. Williamson had a positive alcohol screen on November 1, 2012. She failed to call the urine toxicology screening test line six times between September 30, 2011, and November 29, 2012. She failed to submit to testing on May 16, 2012, and November 21, 2012. Finally, Ms. Williamson refused to attend a residential treatment program, recommended by the HPMP, following her relapse with alcohol on January 11, 2013, while on a weekend pass from the Farley Center, Williamsburg, Virginia.

5. On March 5, 2013, Ms. Williamson was convicted of contempt of court in the Charlottesville, Virginia, General District Court, as a result of her registering a positive alcohol test on her car's court-ordered interlock device on December 12, 2012. At the informal conference, Ms. Williamson admitted that this conviction was the result of a relapse, as was the driving under the influence conviction of October 9, 2012, that led to the interlock device being placed on her car.

6. At the informal conference, Ms. Williamson stated that in 2006 she identified herself as an alcoholic, and she was sober from 2007 to 2009. Currently, she attends Alcoholics Anonymous five to seven times per week, and she is working on the steps. In addition, she does have a

sponsor at Alcoholics Anonymous. Her date of sobriety is January 12, 2013. After 20 years of employment, Ms. Williamson is not currently employed at St. Mary's Hospital, Richmond, Virginia, because her leave of absence ended in May 2013. Ms. Williamson stated, "I'm not ready practice nursing at this time. I'm willing to go into HPMP, and I want to practice nursing in the future."

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Finding of Fact No. 4 constitutes a violation of the Order of the Board entered January 15, 2013, and § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.
2. Finding of Fact No. 5 constitutes a violation of § 54.1-3007(6) of the Code.

### **ORDER**

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Tamela S. Williamson, R.N., C.N.S., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. License No. 0001-094356 of Ms. Williamson to practice professional nursing is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
3. Registration No. 0015-000199 of Ms. Williamson to practice as a clinical nurse specialist is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED.
4. The license and registration will be recorded as suspended and no longer current.
5. At such time as Ms. Williamson shall petition the Board for reinstatement of her license and registration, an administrative proceeding will be convened to determine whether she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice of professional nursing and as a clinical nurse specialist. Ms. Williamson shall be responsible for any fees that may be required for the reinstatement and renewal of the license and registration prior to issuance of the license and registration to resume practice.
6. This suspension shall be STAYED contingent upon proof of Ms. Williamson's re-entry into and continued compliance with the HPMP. The indefinite suspension shall be STAYED and the

following terms and conditions shall apply:

- a. Ms. Williamson shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPMP.
- b. Any violation of the terms and conditions stated in this Order shall be reason for summarily rescinding the stay of indefinite suspension of the license and registration of Ms. Williamson, and an administrative proceeding shall be held to determine whether her license and registration shall be revoked. The stay of indefinite suspension may be summarily rescinded at such time the Board is notified that:
  - i. She is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPMP;
  - ii. Her participation in the HPMP has been terminated;
  - iii. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegation against her involving a violation of law, regulation, or any term or condition of this Order.

7. Upon receipt of evidence of Ms. Williamson's participation in and successful completion of the HPMP, the Board, at its discretion, may waive Ms. Williamson's appearance before a Committee and conduct an administrative review of this matter, at which time she may be issued an unrestricted license and registration.


8. This Order is applicable to Ms. Williamson's multistate licensure privileges, if any, to practice professional nursing. For the duration of this Order, Ms. Williamson shall not work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to a multistate licensure privilege without the written permission of the Virginia Board of Nursing and the Board of Nursing in the party state where she wishes to work. Any requests for out of state employment should be directed, in writing, to the Executive Director of the Board.

9. Ms. Williamson shall maintain a course of conduct in her capacity as a professional nurse and registered clinical nurse specialist commensurate with the requirements of § 54.1-3000 *et seq.* of the Code and the Board of Nursing Regulations.

Pursuant to § 54.1-2400.2 of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record, and shall be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Pursuant to Section 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, Ms. Williamson may, not later than 5:00 p.m., on March 12, 2014, notify Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E., Executive Director, Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233, in writing that he/she desires a formal administrative hearing before the Board. Upon the filing with the Executive Director of a request for the hearing, this Order shall be vacated.

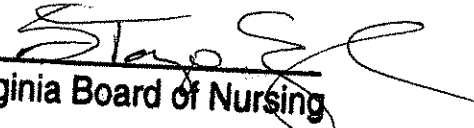
FOR THE BOARD:

  
For Jay P. Douglas, M.S.M., R.N., C.S.A.C., F.R.E.  
Executive Director  
Virginia Board of Nursing

ENTERED: Feb 7, 2014

This Order shall become final on March 12, 2014, unless a request for a formal administrative hearing is received as described above.

Certified True Copy

By   
Virginia Board of Nursing